Application No.: 10/706,113

Reply to the Office Action dated: July 12, 2005

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Goodrow for the helpful and courteous discussion with Applicants' Representatives on August 22, 2005. During this discussion it was noted that the claims may be allowable if Claim 9 is rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the limitations of allowable Claim 9 have been included in Claim 1. Claims 20, 23, 25 and 27 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101, moot.

The rejection of Claims 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is traversed. Claim 30 relates to a one-component developer comprising the toner according to Claim 1. Claim 31 relates to a toner container comprising the one-component developer according to Claim 30. Claim 30 is broader in scope than Claim 1 and Claim 31 is broader in scope than Claim 30. Thus, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is obviated by the amendment of Claim 1.

Regarding <u>US 6,821,698</u>, Applicants wish to point out that this reference was filed on September 23, 2002 and published on July 10, 2003, before the US filing date of the present application (November 13, 2003). The Examiner has only used this reference for a double patenting rejection of Claims 1-41 over claims 1-28 of <u>US 6,821,698</u>. This double patenting rejection is traversed because there is no explicit disclosure or suggestion in the claims of <u>US 6,821,698</u> of formulae (I) and (II) as claimed in Claim 1. Thus, the double patenting rejection should be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge that the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement, filed in the above-identified application on February 9, 2004, have been considered. For the Examiner's convenience a copy of Form PTO 1449 as filed on February 9, 2004, is attached herewith.

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This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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